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THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

NON-PARTY. ***Societies and Branches in the Union*** **602.** **LAW-ABIDING.**

VOL. VI., No. 309.] FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1915. [PRICE 1D.
Registered as a Newspaper.

The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time being suspended their political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war. They desire to help in the most effective way, by work rather than doles; to preserve the life of the race for the future by special care of mothers and young children; and generally to illustrate in their own lives the truth that the Suffragists' demand is for duties rather than for rights, and their ideal is the service of humanity. WILL YOU JOIN?

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Notes and News.

Child Labour in Agricultural Districts.

The discussion in Parliament on March 4th, on the question of the exemption of boys from school in order that they may work on farms, added very little to the various suggestions put forward in the previous week. In view of the fact that the shortage of agricultural labour was foreseen—as Sir Harry Verney admitted—as "an inevitable consequence . . . the moment recruiting began," it seems a little late in the day for Parliament to be discussing how to meet it, at a time when the planting of spring wheat ought to be already in full swing. Since the Board of Agriculture realised as far back as last August that there would be this serious shortage, a definite scheme should surely have been started at once, so that an efficient body of workers might be forthcoming when they were wanted, and provision made for their housing. The Board is, indeed, organising classes for women and girls in butter-making and other branches of dairy work and work connected with agriculture, but considering the immense sums contributed for the relief of unemployment, and the number of women out of work, it should have been possible to have organised a really satisfactory scheme by now for supplying women labourers at an adequate rate of pay, and with a distinct understanding as to the conditions under which they should work. In France, the harvest and vintage were secured last autumn mainly by women's work, and we are convinced that British women could and would do all that our farmers require, if they were properly trained and were offered a really adequate wage.

Children and Wage-Earning.

Meanwhile, Miss Susan Lawrence, in *The Labour Woman*, reports that in Bedford, Bucks, Essex, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Huntingdon, Leicester, Northampton, Oxfordshire, Soke of Peterborough, Somerset, Surrey, Sussex, Yorkshire (N. and E. Ridings), Worcester, Wilts., and Westmorland, the Education Acts "are not being enforced." That is to say, children under thirteen are either dispensed with school attendance at the desire of the farmers, or, if they are withdrawn without formal permission, their parents are not prosecuted. It does not appear that the Board of Education really intends to do anything in the matter, although when the nut and bolt manufacturers of Darlaston asked the Staffordshire Education Committee to relax the age-limit rules, and it in turn applied to the Home Office, it was pointed out that the Board of Education had no power to authorise the suspension of by-laws. The Darlaston manufacturers had to yield the point; it is sufficiently evident that the farmers will not, since apparently they need not. But we urge most strongly that, in view of the following considerations, they should be refused also:—(1) That the wages of agricultural labourers have been admitted to be, in some districts at least, a scandal, only to be palliated by the fact that their employers, the farmers, were very badly off themselves; (2) that farming is now in a more prosperous condition; (3) that the demand for child-labour comes almost entirely from the districts in which conspicuously low wages are paid.

The Employment of Women.

On the other hand, we urge on the representatives of the agricultural labourers' interests, that it is perfectly futile merely to boycott women's labour, by classing (and condemning) it, along with child labour, as "cheap." If there is any real shortage now, or in the future, the question of employing grown women instead of small boys will certainly be pressed, and the whole object of the Agricultural Labourers' Union should be to see that, if and when this happens, the women's labour shall *not* be "cheap labour," but such as will not undercut the men. The cheap patriotism of Mr. Peto, who suggested in the House of Commons that "ladies who take extreme views on the Suffrage question" would perform "a patriotic duty" if they offered to do farm-work themselves, must not blind us to the fact that there may be a real shortage of farm-labourers, that women are perfectly competent to do some of the work, and that they will have a perfect right to make their own terms if the Union has nothing more enlightened to offer than a blank refusal to consider the employment of women at all.

The Administration of Pensions and Allowances.

In considering to whom the administration of Pensions and Allowances should be entrusted at headquarters, it is clear that there are obvious disadvantages in creating a new Government Department for work which will necessarily be temporary in character, and the question therefore arises which of the existing bodies is most suitable for the purpose? In an organisation entrusted with an estimated expenditure of 300 millions, direct Treasury control is essential; and the two existing bodies which possess necessary qualifications appear to be the Old-Age Pensions Committee and the National Health Insurance Commissioners. For important reasons we incline, upon the whole, to regard the latter body as the more suitable. The

SMA X

National Health Insurance Commission is one of the few departments in which women administrators already exist, and it will be generally agreed that work intimately concerning the lives of women and children should not be in the hands of a body consisting solely of men. Women of proved capacity are needed, and the organisation of a special administrative sub-department, some of the members being women, would be a simple development of the work of the Commission.

Local Administrative Committees.

The large women's staff already working under these is, owing to a wide experience and intimate knowledge of industrial conditions, admirably suited to the executive work. These women are continually dealing with many thousands of the very women with whom we are concerned, who are wives of employed persons or mothers claiming maternity benefit, and they have already acquitted themselves of a most complicated and difficult task on nearly the same lines as that now proposed, with a tact and sympathy which has won them the genuine regard of employers and the trust of the employed. The question of local committees would probably be best solved by the creation of *ad hoc* bodies with a large proportion of women serving on them. The local Insurance Committees would not be suited to this work.

Vox et Præterea—Nihil?

Last week we were all applauding the courage of Mr. Lloyd George's speech on the "lure of drink," and only regretting that he had not realised before this that our country suffers more from intemperance than from "all the German submarines put together," and suffers not only in one class of life, or only in the output of armaments. But we are now beginning to ask—what next? The trumpets have sounded: are the walls of Jericho going to fall? The inhabitants thereof, we are assured by a member of the National Trade Defence Association, will not allow any trumpet-blowing on the part of "unauthorised bodies." Is this a demand for legislation? If so, will it be met?

War, Religion, and the Woman's Movement.

We learn with great interest that a series of great meetings in the Central Hall, Westminster, is being organised, to consider "The Religious Aspect of the Woman's Movement in its Relation to War and Peace." These meetings will take place on the morning, afternoon, and evening of March 22nd, and the speakers will discuss, not the present war, but a far more general and wide-reaching problem—"the contribution of women to the establishment of a Christian civilisation" in the future. Among the speakers are people of all ways of thinking, and the meetings should certainly be of very great interest and importance.

"Compassion."

In connection with certain statements to which we alluded some weeks ago under the heading "Compassion," we have received a number of letters offering help to women who, as a result of violation, are expecting to become mothers. We desire to thank our correspondents most warmly, and to tell them that, after careful inquiry, we have come to the conclusion that there are no such cases in this country. There are some in France, but for these the French Government is making provision. We are still prosecuting inquiries in this country, and shall be glad to follow up any information sent to us; but in the meantime, we must express incredulity as to the existence of "thousands," or even "scores," of women, of whom we are constantly told, with careful details as to where they may be found—only to find not even a single case when inquiry is made. We cannot doubt—indeed, we know, from the fact that provision has been made by the French Government—that cases exist in France. Indeed, we wonder how many wars have come and gone without the perpetration of this "ancient wrong of women." But it appears (1) that the cases are few, (2) that there are none traceable in this country up to the present.

The Future of "The Common Cause."

On and after March 10th, the offices of The Common Cause will be at 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W. The National Union paper will, therefore, be under the same roof as the National Union Headquarters. We are confident that this move will be to the great advantage of all concerned, and especially to that of The Common Cause itself. Will our readers kindly make a note of the change of address? We take this opportunity of thanking them for their swift response to an appeal for further help, which appeared in this column last week. Will others send us money also, to pay street sellers, who will at once advertise our paper and keep themselves while looking out for work?

War and the Children.

"Just a line to let you know what hardships this war is bringing on us poor people. Take my case, for instance. I have seven children, all under thirteen. I must have proper sleeping room for them and so I have to pay 7s. 9d. for rent. My bread before the war used to be about 3s. 6d., and now it comes to 5s. 10d. or 6s. 3d., and so my children can have very little else but bread and margarine. I can only get such a luxury as meat once a week. Coal is 1s. for half-a-cwt., so it is very little firing we can have, as my husband cannot get much work as they cannot get the craft to do the work with. No one knows what this means to us poor people—only ourselves."

This letter has been received from a woman in Deptford, who is herself a cleaner while her husband is something in the docks. It explains itself as far as it goes. Meat cut down to once a week, and coal to half-a-cwt. a week, mean the same thing—that the family must live on bread, since they must eat something, and since bread is already cooked and need be no drain upon the fuel. Before the war bread was, in some places, sold at 2½d. the loaf, or 5d. a quartern, and in some at 5½d. the quartern or 2¾d. the loaf—the same loaf which now costs 4d. and, in some places, 4¼d. The mother in a poor household buys as much bread as usual at the higher price, and ruthlessly cuts down everything else. It is her only possible method since fuel is so high. One cwt. of coal a week hardly keeps the living-room decently warm and comfortable in the winter. Half a cwt. is summer consumption. In normal times gas would probably be a good deal used for cooking purposes. But now gas, too, has gone up and the women have ceased to cook with it; the usual nine or eleven pennies in the slot are now reduced to five, or less, for lighting alone.

Here is a list of prices taken from a Woolwich household:—

A week's food before the War.		s.	d.	s.	d.	*What the same amounts would cost now.*		s.	d.	s.	d.
7 quarterns bread	at	0	5	2	11	7 quarterns bread	at	0	8	4	8
1½ ,, flour	,,	0	5½	0	8¼	1½ ,, flour	,,	0	8	1	0
8 lb. meat ...	,,	0	7	4	8	8 lb. meat ...	,,	1	1	8	8
1 lb. bacon ...	,,	0	10	0	10	1 lb. bacon ...	,,	1	3	1	3
1 lb. butter ...	,,	1	2	1	2	1 lb. butter ...	,,	1	6	1	6
2 tins separated milk ...	,,	0	3	0	6	2 tins milk ...	,,	0	5	0	10
1 lb. tea	,,	1	6	1	6	1 lb. tea	,,	1	9	1	9
4 lb. moist sugar	,,	0	2	0	8	4 lb. moist sugar	,,	0	3½	1	2
				12	11¼					20	10
Add to this:—											
2 cwt. coal ...	,,	1	6	3	0	2 cwt. coal ...	,,	2	8	5	4
1 doz. matches ...	,,	0	1½	0	1½	1 doz. matches ...	,,	0	2½	0	2½
2 bars soap ...	,,	0	2½	0	5	2 bars soap ...	,,	0	3½	0	7
				16	5¾					26	11½

This means that of these special articles 27s. only buys now what 16s. 6d. used to buy before the war.

The 13s. spent on food before the war is no longer available since coal, gas, wood, matches, and soap all take their toll out of it. It is always now at least a shilling less. Twelve shillings spent now buys very much less food than did thirteen shillings before the war. The quantities now bought are:—

		s.	d.	s.	d.	
7 quarterns bread ...	at	0	8	4	8	
1 ,, flour ...	,,	0	8	0	8	instead of 1½ quarterns.
3 lb. meat	,,	1	1	3	3	,, ,, 8 lb.
2 lb. margarine ...	,,	0	6	1	0	,, ,, butter.
2 tins separated milk ...	,,	0	5	0	10	
½ lb. tea	,,	1	0	0	10½	,, ,, 1 lb.
2 lb. sugar	,,	0	3½	0	7	,, ,, 4 lb.
				11	10½	

In still poorer households, where the amount spent per head a week on food was before the war one shilling or one shilling and twopence, this great curtailment of the purchasing power of the shilling is a tragedy. The household which already lived almost entirely on bread and the cheapest margarine has no resource in these days other than to cut down the amount of bread.

People who have paid weekly sums varying from 7d. to 1s. 2d. for Burial insurance, have now been forced to cease payment, and the considerable amount of money they, with painful thrift, handed week by week to the insurance collector might as well have been thrown into the river. The "boot-club" weekly shilling, the "clothing-club" sixpence, have disappeared in a desperate attempt to keep up the usual supply of fuel and food. But in spite of all their struggles the 30s. a week household is now living as though it were a 25s. a week household; the 25s. as the 20s.; the 20s. as the 15s.

Such a state of things spells the ruin of health in the very centre and stronghold of national life—the health of children.

M. S. Reeves.

War and Song.—I.

The Present Hour. Percy Mackaye. (Macmillan. 5s. 6d. net.)
For Belgium. Wilfrid Blair. (Blackwell. In aid of *The Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund. 1s. net.)
The Silk-Hat Soldier. Richard le Gallienne. (Lane. 1s. net.)
Songs and Sonnets for England in War-Time. (Lane. In aid of the Prince of Wales's Fund. 1s. net.)
The Song of the Guns. Herbert Kaufman. (Fisher Unwin. 1s. net.)
Fighting Lines. Harold Begbie. (Constable. 1s. net.)
Jessie Pope's War Poems. (Grant Richards. 1s. net.)
The Union Jack. Mdme. Henri Curchod. (A. Gardner. In aid of wounded British and French Soldiers. 1s. net.)

Throughout the ages war and song have gone hand in hand. The stir of battle looks to the poet to make its message "palpable in words," and so from the days of Greek and Hebrew, from the spacious days of great Elizabeth, from all great struggles which have shaken the world, the voice of the poet has pealed out in songs of victory and defeat, exultation and anguish.

It is small wonder that this greatest of all wars should have called forth a flood of verse, but the attitude in which modern poets approach the subject is very striking. The glory of battle for its own sake has fled for ever, and the theme of English-speaking poets is now:—

"War for the end of War,
Fighting that Fighting cease;
Why do our cannon roar?
For a thousand years of Peace."

Mr. Mackaye, whose poems are deeply imbued with this new spirit, will arouse interest, not only because his work touches a very high level, but because he is an American, and so has a different view-point from the rest. Poems like "Antwerp" and "The Muffled Drums" crystallise for us the waste of war, and the impression is intensified by "The Child-Dancers," with its picture of a happy band of children from the belligerent nations:—

". . . elves . . . in smocks grey-blue as sea and ledge,
Dancing upon the silvered edge
Of darkness, . . . "

and living together "linked in one holy family of art," unbroken by war's alarms. Mr. Mackaye's imagination is lit by the true poetic fire, and his work rarely lapses into the commonplace.

The authors of "For Belgium" and "The Silk-Hat Soldier" are filled with an abiding sense of the tragedy which has come upon the nations. Mr. Blair urges that England should show her disinterestedness by abstaining from the spoils of victory. "For Belgium, all—but oh, for England nought!" His "Britain Rides" is an inspiring record of the spirit in which we fight. There is real poetry and pathos in Mr. le Gallienne's "Cry of the Little Peoples," and the sorrow-laden atmosphere of last December broods over "Christmas in War-Time" with its haunting repetition of:—

"Ah! in the old woods leave the mistletoe,
And leave the holly for another year,
Its berries are too red."

"Songs and Sonnets for England in War-Time" is an excellent collection of many of the best poems which have been written since the outbreak of war. A large number of poets are represented: among them Sir Owen Seaman and Mr. Barry Pain, to both of whom war has brought the power of touching heights formerly beyond their reach.

It is not always great poetry which has brought encouragement to a nation at war. Often the verse handed down to posterity yielded in popularity at the time of its writing to the lilt of humbler song; so, to-day, much of the current topical verse comes home to men's minds and bosoms, while stirring lays such as Mr. Kaufman's "Hell-Gate of Soissons" and the vivid lines of Mr. Begbie's "Walls of Jellicoe" take hold upon the popular imagination. Mr. Begbie is at times reminiscent of Kipling. Mr. Kaufman attains a fine solemnity in "We Draw the Sword," and a merciless realism in "The Song of the Guns." Miss Jessie Pope writes neat verse, and there is humour in "A Sing-Song" and some of her other pieces.

"The Union Jack" treats, rather melodramatically, of various incidents in the Great War. As we glance through these books of contemporary verse we are reminded of the saying that—

"The song that nerves a nation's heart
Is in itself a deed,"

and in admitting its truth we realise that poets, like every other class in England to-day, are giving of their best to their country's need. Who shall say that the gifts of the imagination which they bring are of less value than more material offerings?

M. M. McA.

Les Trois Ages de L'Homme: Etude de l'Evolution de l'Humanite," par Georges Eedes Boxall. (Williams & Norgate. pp. 339. Price 3s. net.)

Mr. Boxall's book is written in French, in order, we suppose, not to alarm a somewhat prudish public. It is difficult to know how far such precautions are really necessary. There is nothing in the book—which is written in a scientific spirit of enquiry—which any serious student ought to object to reading in English. On the other hand, it is obviously only for serious students that it is meant. Its point of view is frankly opposed to that of the feminist movement, and Mr. Boxall is as firmly persuaded that the demand for the vote is merely a wail for a husband, as though Australia and New Zealand had never existed. But insularity is not necessarily absent from scholars of deep subjects—even when they write in French.

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In order to give the public a most advantageous opportunity of testing "Seldonite" in their own homes, the proprietors have decided for a short while to send post free the full-size 4s. box (sufficient to treat one ton of Coal, Coke, Anthracite or Slack), with full directions, to all readers for only 2s. 6d. Orders and remittances, however, must be sent within the next few days. Five boxes will be forwarded (whilst this offer lasts) for only 10s.

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who writes—"I like 'Seldonite' as much as ever, and enclose cheque for a further supply. You can certainly make use of anything I have said in favour of 'Seldonite,' as I wish you every success."

The Viscountess Templetown,
who writes—"I found 'Seldonite' most satisfactory, and will order more when required."

The Lady Swansea,
who writes—"Please send me five more boxes of 'Seldonite.' I was perfectly satisfied with the first trial box, and think it excellent."

Lucy, Countess of Egmont,
who writes—"I am quite satisfied with the 'Seldonite.' Please send me a further supply."

Susan, Countess of Southesk,
who writes—"I have found 'Seldonite' most satisfactory, and have no objection to your using my name as a satisfied user."

Lady Richardson,
who writes—"I find 'Seldonite' very satisfactory in making a very bright and extra warm fire. It is also much cleaner than ordinary coal."

Lady Frankland,
who writes—"I have much pleasure in stating that I have found 'Seldonite' most satisfactory. It certainly makes the coal last much longer."

Lady Shelford,
"I find 'Seldonite' very satisfactory. The fires burn clear, last long, and retain the heat. In addition to this there is very little smoke."

Louisa Lady Walker,
who writes—"I shall be much obliged if you will send me eleven more boxes of 'Seldonite,' as I and all my family use it and find it quite excellent. The fires are bright and the consumption of coal considerably less."

Lady Mary Cayley,
who writes—"Having found 'Seldonite' very satisfactory in its results, I enclose remittance for a further supply to be sent by return."

Lady Isabel Stewart,
who writes—"I have been using 'Seldonite' on my coals for the last three or four weeks, and find a very great improvement. The coal lasts well, the fires are perceptibly much warmer, and when 'Seldonite' was not used I at once noticed the difference."

Lady Frances Bushby,
who writes—"You are quite at liberty to mention my name as using and approving 'Seldonite,' as I consider the results of the treatment very satisfactory."

Victoria, Countess of Yarborough,
who writes—"I find 'Seldonite' very satisfactory, and will feel obliged if you will send me five more boxes."

Lady Eggar,
who writes—"Please send me a further supply of 'Seldonite' by return. I find it admirable for brightening up the fire."

The Rev. Canon Seaton, D.D.,
Villa Loreto, St. Peter's-in-Thanet, who writes—"'Seldonite' has given great satisfaction, and the consumption of the coal has been considerably reduced."

Sir Edward Redford, C.B.,
who writes—"'Seldonite' possesses all the advantages it lays claim to, and is of very considerable benefit. The preparation not only economises coal, but it also ensures an excellent fire. It is, moreover, clean, and gives out more heat in a room than a fire made without 'Seldonite.'"

Sir Charles A. Payton,
who writes—"I find 'Seldonite' very useful and economical. Coal treated with it burns well and slowly, giving good heat and very little ash."

Sir Robert Kennedy, K.C.M.G.,
who writes—"I am perfectly satisfied with 'Seldonite,' as I find that it is conducive to cleanliness and economy, and that coal treated with the preparation burns a bright red and consumes the coal slowly. I have given 'Seldonite' this year to my coachman, gardeners, etc., and they are much pleased with it."

Colonel Fludyer,
62, Warwick-square, who writes—"I find that when using 'Seldonite' not only is there a great saving in the amount of coal used, but also that the coal treated with it gives out twice as much heat. In the kitchen range I find it saves quite one large scuttleful of coal per day."

The Rev. Canon W. F. Pearce,
Prebendal House, Chichester, who writes—"I am more than satisfied with 'Seldonite.' It is a great economiser, and gives out more heat than with coal alone."

The Rev. G. Lacey-May,
West Tisted Vicarage, Alresford, who writes—"I have tested 'Seldonite' both on household coal and on church coke, and consider it fully answers your description as doubling the value of either coal or coke. I am delighted with it."

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Correspondence.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN DOCTORS.

Madam,—I was glad to see "Sanitary Inspector's" letter in The Common Cause of January 22nd. As a medical woman of seven years' experience in the Public Health Service, I have been asked to try and correct the misleading impression created by articles on women doctors appearing recently in *The Times*.

(1) It was stated that for the forty-two posts open to women, advertised in *The British Medical Journal*, "in the view of Miss Brooks, the Warden of the London School of Medicine for Women, it is unlikely that there is a single woman practitioner free to apply."

May I say at once, I know several of these posts where the applications are now in, and in every case which has so far come to my knowledge there have been a number of well-qualified women applicants. A woman Assistant School Medical Officer in an unattractive town wrote me that for another post in the same town, advertised some time after the outbreak of war, more than forty applications were received.

(2) The Warden is further quoted as saying, "You can understand that when a woman can accept a public appointment at, say, £400 a year with travelling and other expenses, she will naturally be less tempted to undertake private practice."

Among the forty-two posts advertised in the journal referred to, in no case was the salary as large as £400 a year. In only twelve cases was the salary mentioned over £200 a year, and of these five were workhouse appointments. Of the five posts as *Assistant* School Medical Officer, two are temporary only. Among the remaining school posts there was only *one* in which the salary was as high as £300, rising to £400 a year, non-resident and no pension.

It is only by sacrifice (women school doctors receiving salaries lower than £250 having been called on to resign) and by hard fighting on the part of the school doctors, backed by the British Medical Association, that their salaries have now reached this figure. The very costly training and long experience required of applicants should be borne in mind. The conditions necessary for such school appointments are usually that the applicant, besides being fully qualified in medicine and surgery, must possess a Diploma in Public Health and have special knowledge of diseases of the eye, ear, throat, and of diseases of children. Selected women candidates for such posts often hold the M.D. degree in addition. This implies a *minimum* training of seven or eight years after matriculation.

The posts of "School Medical Officer," where the work is much less monotonous than the routine as Assistant, are almost always closed to women, and I am not aware of a single post as Medical Officer of Health open to them. Women have been carefully excluded from the posts of "Chief Tuberculosis Officer," but we are glad to know that within the past few weeks a woman has actually been appointed "*Temporary* Tuberculosis Officer" for Sunderland.

Naturally, there is a scarcity just now of young doctors to act as house surgeons and physicians. Young men fresh from the schools know that by joining the R.A.M.C., besides the satisfaction of serving their country, they will receive remuneration at the rate of 24s. per day. When they can gain splendid experience in this way, they are not so ready to accept resident posts where they will receive only nominal salaries or none at all.

No reference is made in *The Times* articles to the *lower salaries often offered medical women*, and it is of the utmost importance that women doctors should staunchly refuse to "undercut" medical men. A year ago the British Medical Association remonstrated with the Board of Control (Mental Deficiency Act), because the salary offered their sole woman Inspector was less than the lowest salary offered any of their medical men Inspectors for equal work. Two women successively chosen for the post withdrew on account of the principle of "equal pay for equal work." Result: Government retaliation—men only appointed. Numerous questions asked in Parliament on this subject only elicited the reply that it had not been possible to obtain "a suitable woman." For some weeks past, *The British Medical Journal* has inserted a warning notice *re* a post as Female Assistant at the Post Office. It is to be hoped that no woman will be found to accept the post until the conditions are in accordance with the principle of "equal pay for equal work."

M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

CHILDREN AND FARM LABOUR.

Madam,—In The Common Cause of February 12th there was a letter on "Children and Farm Work," signed "Adelaide E. Grignon," which seems to me to call for some protest.

First, from the point of view of the child's own welfare, is farm work really educative? I quite agree as to the importance of an outdoor and first-hand study of nature, but I fail to see how this could be carried out under the conditions of farm work. A child of twelve is seldom able, even if he is willing, to take up independent study, especially if connected with "work." And in any case he could hardly find time for that patient, quiet watching which is the very essence of nature study.

Then, again, is it true "that a child's mind is best developed by setting him to *do* things?" Set a child to plant potatoes, and what mental development will take place? He will become expert at planting potatoes, but that is hardly mental development, and not one child in twenty would be thinking of the why and wherefore, or having beautiful thoughts of, say, the miracle of growth. It is not reasonable to suppose that mind, which is purely spiritual, can be developed by more physical action.

Then, second, from the point of view of the nation, whose future destiny will be in the hands of these children? Will an education that stops at twelve give them the sane broad outlook, the wise judgment in all things which their country requires of her citizens? What sort of knowledge and grasp of history and its principles will be attained by the age of twelve to fit them for the increasing responsibility of the democracy in the affairs of the nation and the world?

Of course, this early exemption is advocated only for the time of the war, but any subsequent schooling would be practically worthless in view

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of the complete break in all school work and associations (the harmful effect of even a much slighter interruption is shown in the failure of the half-time system). But most important of all is the principle involved. This is the thin end of the wedge; it establishes the principle that the need for labour has greater weight than the need for learning; it encourages the utilitarian conception of education so much deplored by all who believe that "Man does not live by bread alone."

This is surely a matter in which women might unite to make strong protest, in the interests of the children, the nation, and also of unemployed women, as pointed out in a recent number of THE COMMON CAUSE.

M. GIBSON.

THE TYRANNY OF FASHION.

MADAM,—The age-long submission of women to Fashion's yoke is a fact we have to recognise, and age-long habits are slow to break. But women who are in full revolt against so many senseless conventions are not likely to make Fashion the one exception for long.

The quotation from a fashion article in Mrs. Acland's spirited protest of February 19th should rouse to rebellion those Suffragist women who may not yet have considered the matter. Even more offensive in its arrogant impertinence is the following, which appeared lately in a woman's journal of very high standing: "The autocratic dame who rules our modistic destinies has irrecoverably turned over a new leaf, and is clearly concerned that those recently expounded shall be securely sealed down. . . . The styles we must perforce adopt will bear no resemblance to those of last summer."

It needs practically no inside knowledge, and but a little intelligent thinking, to explain how this kind of dictation proceeds. Some little time ago *Punch* depicted a group of portly bald-headed men in the act of arranging fashions for the coming season, being the autocrats who rule the dress centres of Paris and of Mayfair. We may assume that the camarilla would as a next step issue its instructions to the fashion writers to lay down the law to women after the Prussian manner exemplified above. There is a marked peremptoriness in their tone this spring, perhaps because the attempt has before been made to bring in the wide skirt, and has failed. . . .

The sporting woman will almost certainly refuse to give up her conveniently narrow skirt. Why on earth should not the average woman do likewise? Let her ascertain the exact measurement which suits her (the ability to jump into a 'bus is a good test), take it to her dressmaker, and defy dictation. I admit this involves some small trouble and determination, for the whole dress trade is in the conspiracy, but it will be more than repaid. Moreover, under present conditions the luxury trades are unusually anxious to oblige. So may we escape the terror shown us by the latest fashion plates of the "New Silhouette," which is the Early Victorian. I know there is a craze for this among a group of artists, probably because they have hardly seen the thing walking about. (Alas! I have.) To those who are infected I would recommend a visit to the costumes of the Victorian period shown in the Victoria and Albert Museum. There one may realise to the full the monstrosities of form to which the eye can become accustomed, and which our dress autocrats now propose to lead us down to, in defiance of the Greek ideal.

I am not advocating dowdiness. I think every woman who has the time and means should aim at making her dress beautiful and expressive of her individuality. To assert individuality it is not necessary to run into eccentricity or grotesqueness. Of that we have seen too much of late in some directions, but always at the suggestion of La Mode. Portly women of middle age have been doing their hair with a drooping simplicity, and worn hats of a bleak and ruthless bareness becoming, perhaps, to the "flapper"—if a very pretty "flapper" indeed. Worse than grotesque, we have seen not a few tight skirts slit to the knee, and evening bodices seeming to consist only of a few yards of tulle. But I am wandering from my subject, which I had intended to limit to walking-dresses. The motive of those persons who inform us that *the styles we must perforce adopt will bear no resemblance to those of last summer*, should be obvious to the least experienced. It is meant that the successful frock of last summer, however little worn, shall be inadmissible in the coming one. Besides, the manufacturers, who have long been clamouring for the sale of more material, have to be placated. Surely Suffragists will not take this lying down, but will resolve to defeat the enemy, which, solely for its own ends, has again organised a conspiracy against our health, our comfort, and our pockets.

EARLY VICTORIAN.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE'S STATUE.

MADAM,—I was truly astonished to see your acquiescence in the insult to Florence Nightingale, for it was surely an insult to that great woman to let her statue be unveiled at 7.30 a.m. by a workman; and not only to her, but to all the nursing profession, which she founded, if not to womanhood generally. There could have been no better time to raise a demonstration of national homage to one who served her country so splendidly than the present, when our nurses are so valiantly doing their duty at the front, and are acknowledged by all the world as a valuable part of the army's organization. It is amazing and it is enraging to find that such an opportunity as this should have been missed. I know the National Union will consider some means of making a demonstration of honour at the foot of the statue, and not let this occasion pass unheeded.

MARY E. PENDERED.

[*The circumstances in which Miss Nightingale's statue was unveiled may have been an error of judgment—that is a matter of opinion; but it hardly seems to us the time to raise a dispute on a question of publicity, especially in view of the fact that the great reformer herself always detested it.*—ED., "C.C."]

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MEETINGS.—Monday, March 15th, at 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. F. E. Smith. Chair: Mrs. A. E. W. Marshall. Subject: "The Horoscope of the W.S.P.U."
" Wednesday, March 17th, at 3.30 p.m., Women's Freedom League. Mrs. E. M. Moore on "The Price."

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All Business Communications *to be addressed to The Manager,* The Common Cause, *2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* Advertisements *must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

Notice.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* The Common Cause.

"Woman's Opportunity"?

There has been much talk here, of late, of "Woman's Opportunity" in war-time. The phrase is, indeed, on the lips of many women and more men, and oozes from the reactionary press. The expression, of course, bears many interpretations.

To the Anti-suffragist type of mind "Woman's Opportunity" mainly means "the knitting opportunity," "the nursing opportunity," "the philanthropic opportunity," or, if occasion forces it, "the opportunity to do mechanical drudgery, the literary 'chores' in men's domains."

To the progressive person, "Woman's Opportunity" (promptly translated, by the way, into "Women's Opportunity") means the belated chance for women to fill in the world of work the positions for which inclination, training, and experience have best fitted them. Both camps are awaiting—possibly with different intent—the results of feminine activity in heretofore masculine occupations.

The upholders of "Woman's Opportunity" are apparently anxious to impress the world with the immensity of the present change, if we may judge from the columns of their newspapers. *The Times*, for example, in an article of March 8th, under the heading, "New Professions for Women: Doing Men's Work," goes the length of tabulating "the professions and trades which women are now entering for the first time." Among these are included "Medicine," "Architectural Drawing," "Toy-making," and "Banking and Accountancy." Now, as to Medicine and Architectural Drawing, it is hardly necessary to do more than recall such names as Dr. Jex Blake, Dr. Garrett Anderson and Miss Pugin, to repudiate the "newness" of such professions for women. And with regard to toy-making, we can affirm that the women of this country are by no means novices in that trade. As to such war-time openings as Banking and Accountancy, positions in Government Departments, and Municipal Offices, we must first know in what capacity women are employed before we can join in the exultation of *The Times* at "Woman's Opportunity." Unfortunately, we find upon inquiry that the more responsible positions are still jealously guarded from feminine contact. No matter what the experience and training of women applicants may be, no matter what pressure of work occurs within the office gates, "war-vacancy posts" in the said occupations, when offered to women, resolve themselves mainly into work of a routine character, remunerated by the wage of a masculine immature clerk. The higher positions and the higher wages are now, as before the war, closed to women by reason of their sex. "Woman's Opportunity" in Banking, for example, is mainly, if not entirely, the opportunity to be a shorthand-typist within the sacred walls, or to be a "girl-clerk" where no knowledge of banking proper is either required or acquired.

Again, the vaunted War-openings for women in Government Departments and Municipal Offices are mainly clerical positions to which a salary is attached that no experienced professional woman would accept, save as a last resource in war-time unemployment.

The result of such a system is that the "half-baked," or less expert women are attracted to these posts, and that "Woman's Opportunity" becomes a somewhat extended horizon of the elementary office work already within her purview. The higher positions and the higher salaries are still maintained as guarded masculine preserves. The progressive persons watching for the results of "Women's Opportunity" to attempt the work to which she aspires, watch—for the present—in vain.

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Sore Places in Europe.

II.—Poland.

Problems of War and Peace are discussed in THE COMMON CAUSE *in a series of articles by well-known writers. Contributors are left free to express their own opinions, which must not be assumed to represent the official views of the N.U.W.S.S.*

OF all the numberless tragedies, national and individual, involved in the cataclysm now rending Europe, none would have more subtly moved those great and grim dramatists of the Greek era than that enacted in Poland. Euripides himself could provide no more ironic spectacle, more moving to aching laughter and acid tears, than that now afforded by a State once counted among the greatest in Europe, a nation still great and noble in the arts of peace, a people whose proudest boast is that their nation died (if political death can be called such) for dear liberty's sake.

No record in all the annals of fratricide is so deeply tragic or so defiantly monstrous as this cold and calculated fact of a gentle and cultured people like the Poles forced to face each other on those infamous Eastern fields with the call of hate ringing in hearts ready only to love.

In our insular English way we are only too apt, in this woeful business of war, to lose the sense of proportion that alone can save us individually from condemning hastily and judging harshly. Let us keep before our eyes as a most evil example of imperial greed and hate, that one terrible picture of the Polish plains, where, ringed round with the flames of their fired homesteads, shut in (and shut out, as it seems, from hope of earthly peace) by the smoke of ruined towns, the Poles squint along the rifle-sights that bring within firing distance their own brothers, sons of the one mother, flesh of her flesh, born of her travail. Let us remember that picture when the lust of blood and hate threatens to overwhelm us utterly. There are many sides to this war, and, so far, we have not seen more than one or two of them!

The facts of the dismemberment of Poland are so well known that, like the other things one learns at school, they have been forgotten. They deserve to be written on the walls of every home in our country, so that, in our English pride of race and world-dominion, we seek not to repeat that criminal partition. The Treaty of Vienna, which confirmed and defined the previous partitions of the country, gave Galicia to Austria, Posen, Silesia, and other Polish provinces to Prussia, and the Kingdom of Poland to Russia. The history of the world contains no record of oppression more bitter and bloody than that of the Poles during the intervening century. Insurrection after insurrection revealed their resentment, their passionate desire for the liberty which they cherished before life itself; yet each rising served but closer to bind their limbs, to render their bonds more unbreakable.

To-day the history of this unhappy nation seems to have reached its climax, its terrible turning-point, that may usher in an era bright with the realisation of almost forgotten hopes, that at any rate cannot lead to any hell worse than Poland knows already. After the war has but begun, two-thirds of original Poland—whose population is over three times greater than that of Belgium, and is not much less than that of Italy—is laid utterly waste. Over five hundred towns, according to Warsaw estimates, have been completely destroyed by the German or the Russian guns. Villages without number have vanished, their fugitive inhabitants—such of them as have escaped death itself—added to the homeless millions whose misery we can imagine from our nearer acquaintance with their Belgian fellows in misfortune. The whole fabric of national life which Poland had succeeded, half-surreptitiously, in preserving, has suddenly been rent asunder; trade and business have disappeared; the lean figure of famine stalks abroad in the land, and whom the cannon spare Hunger soon claims for her own. If you will properly grasp the situation of Poland to-day, look carefully at a colony of ants, some square inches in area, with its assiduous industry, its multitudinous homes, its microscopic fields and forests—then imagine a vast and remorseless boot viciously planted on almost all that tiny kingdom, annihilating at one blow every vestige of life and work and pleasure. That is like Poland to-day!

What of the future? To what new Europe shall we return, after we have ended our killing, and tidied up, as best we may, the vast slaughter-house we have made? Are we going back to the Europe of the old tyrannies, of weakness oppressed and strength enthroned, of submerged nationalities and arrogant empires; or to a Europe set free, with the absolute recognition of the rights of every nation as of every individual—a Europe in which a nation shall be free to draw the sword only in vindication of outraged public law, or in defence of a people oppressed?

Justice and liberty call equally on behalf of Poland. Which nation of the three who have enslaved her will hear, and hearing, obey? The records of each Power's relations with Poland make bitter reading. Russia and Germany have been, perhaps, the hardest taskmasters—but, in fairness to Russia, it must be said that her tasks were set but little easier for her own people than for the Poles. Prussia, under the leadership of Bismarck, von Bülow, and Bethmann-Hollweg, has excelled herself in the war of extermination she has waged against the Poles, a war directed at the very root of Polish nationality—the possession of her ancient soil. Only Austria can claim to have treated her Polish subjects with some justice and liberality; Galicia enjoying a measure of local autonomy, besides adequate representation in the Imperial Parliament and recognition of her national institutions. How much this grace is worth, however, in view of the pressure notoriously exerted on Polish commercial interests in Galicia, is a matter of opinion.

It is obvious from a glance at the map that a more or less independent Poland, under the protection, say, of a Concert of European Powers, would be the greatest possible guarantee of permanent peace in Europe. The Poles are a peace-loving nation, devoted to the arts and sciences, and to the encouragement of their intensely vivid national life. Their notable services in the cause of freedom—that War of the Liberation of Humanity that Heine proclaimed—show them to be as ready as the Belgians to defend their country's integrity and independence. Her very position and natural disadvantages render her insuperable as a vast buffer between the two great military Powers of Europe—Russia and Germany. But her greatest, her unanswerable claim for final independence is made in the high name and for the hallowed sake of that old dream that drove her sons, as it has driven ours—to the gallows, to the prison, to exile in far lands, to loss of fair name—to any hell or hardship so they might not submit to the loss of the liberty that was their life!

G. E. SLOCOMBE.

[Owing to prolonged absence abroad and great pressure of work, Mr. Seton Watson's promised article on "The Southern Slavs" cannot be published next week. It will appear shortly.]

UNWANTED CHILDREN.

Vital problems in regard to illegitimate infants are now under discussion in France, and *La Française* repeatedly asks, "Shall women be consulted?"

"There was formerly a commission to combat depopulation. No woman, no mother, no woman teacher took part. To-day, the question of *les petits indesirés* has arrêsted the attention of the authorities; projects are studied, legal depositions will be taken, governing the fate of unborn children. Unless women demand it, no one will dream of consulting them on these questions which almost exclusively interest the woman and the child."

"INNOCENT ALIENS."

We have received from the Emergency Committee for the assistance of innocent aliens in distress in this country, a copy of a letter sent to them by the Emergency Committee formed in Berlin to do corresponding work for "aliens" in Germany.

LETTER FROM THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE IN BERLIN.

"It was with warm gratitude that some time ago we received tidings of your unselfish labours on behalf of our fellow-countrymen, and consequently we appreciate with deep joy and sympathy your message and kindly greeting. Beyond and above the inestimable practical service that has been rendered by your readiness to help, we prize the motive that has prompted you to do so. It is to us a proof that love for men, when it is in conformity with the mind of Jesus Christ, and has its source in the depths of the heart, overflows the barriers of national sensibilities. Yes, we venture to regard ourselves as one with you in longing that the wounds which the one nation must inflict on the other should on our part, though in an almost imperceptible degree, find a healing compensation in the redoubled activity of love in departments of life that are exempt from the imperious sway of war.

"Accordingly, we have addressed ourselves to this work, and are treading a path in which we daily encounter the most varied tasks. We pray for a twofold blessing upon our labour; first, for the sake of every need that we are privileged to alleviate; and, secondly, for the sake of the strengthening which will be thereby given to our faith in the delivering and healing power of Christian philanthropy. We thank you for your desire to make our work known, and will not fail to spread abroad in our country information of your activities.

"With faith in the power of the Will to Good, and with confidence in the eventual coming of a lasting peace, we greet you as your friends."

The letter is signed by D. Spiecker, F. Siegmund-Schultze, Elisabeth Rotten, and Gertrud Schwerdtfeger.

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Serbian Unit.

On March 6th ten more fever nurses and one orderly set sail for Malta, en route for Kraguievatz. The day before they left our earlier contingent of ten fever nurses reached their destination. Shortly, we hope to hear that our five physicians, who travelled overland by the delectable route Paris, Rome, and Brindisi, have also arrived. All told, our workers will then number fifty-six—all too few, however, to cope with the fevers which are raging amongst our Serbian Allies.

Various extracts from letters written by members of our Unit to their relatives have reached us, and we append a few.

A Probationer's Views.

Kraguievatz.

"Our unit has been put into very comfortable quarters, with fine big windows and lots of air. There are eleven of us sleeping in one room, just like an hospital. We had two days and two nights in the train from Salonika, but the trains were very comfortable, just like our first-class carriages at home; the seats pulled out, so we lay right down.

"The country round here is just like Scotland, and the Serbian people are nice to look at; big, strong, and good-looking. I have not seen much of the poverty yet, except for a few, terribly ill-looking babies which looked starved. We stopped at Nish on the road here for a day, where they gave us a great reception. Some high official showed us all round the place and gave us a swell dinner. It was very funny; the table was laden with big iced cakes, and after two courses we began on the cakes. I had four pieces of 45th. Much to our disgust the best part of the dinner, delicious turkey and sucking pig, followed; we tucked in, nevertheless. Miss —— and I got a dandy motor ride by chance. The head of some military affair gave us his car, but the roads are awful—about a foot deep in mud—our Wellingtons are going to be the most useful things of all; I hope they will last. The great characteristics of this place are the squeaking of pigs and the six hours cock. I never saw anything so funny as the pigs here. The people always carry them by the hind legs, upside-down, and the animals squeaking for all they are worth.

"17th.—We are into regular working order now, and only have two hours off a day. We have eleven wards and about 250 patients. Miss —— and I have been raised to the status of probationers, and we have quite hard work. The great want here is our inability to speak the language. It is awful not being able to understand. I carry on small conversations, such as 'How are you?' 'Did you sleep well?' 'Are you married?' 'How old are you?' but the poor things must get tired of hearing the same things over and over again. Don't worry about us here, and think we are living under very trying circumstances, because we are not. The people are awfully nice and all very, very simple. One thing is certain here, and that is the hospitals are disgraceful—in the fever ward the patients are all huddled together, three in one bed, no one attends to them but orderlies, who are Austrian prisoners. Our little hospital seems such a drop in the bucket. We have started a little convalescent home and a little fever hospital of our own, but so far they do not amount to much. We have four Austrian orderlies in each ward. They do the stretcher carrying, fire-lighting, room-sweeping, &c. I am in a fever ward which has only eleven beds. I am getting a dab at giving patients blanket baths and making their beds while they are in them, likewise dosing out medicines. Don't talk to me about bugs! Gee, we see some sights! I always search my blankets every morning and am nearly always successful. How I loathe filth—that is what is wrong with the other hospitals here—abject filth."

Pitiful Lack of Nursing.

Other members of the Unit write:—

"Patients were sent to us in batches until our wards were full, and we still get them at intervals when we discharge convalescents. They come from other hospitals in town, not fresh from the front, as there has been no fighting for some time lately. They come to us in a terrible condition, having had *absolutely no nursing*. You can imagine from this, perhaps, what the hospitals are like here. It is really not the Serbians' fault. The whole country is one immense hospital—doctors, Serbs, and prisoners alike work all day merely to get the dressings done and the drugs given out. There is no attempt at nursing—no Serbian women are trained to do so, and they have become apathetic during their three wars. Many are refugees struggling to keep some sort of a house together.

"The most terrible sight I have seen here is the big fever hospital—a huge barracks where there are said to be 1,500 cases of fever, mostly enteric, typhus, and recurrent. Among their patients the acknowledged death-rate is ten a day—the fill of *our* hospital in a fortnight! With a fellow member of the Unit I went over the typhus wards one day. You really cannot imagine what it was like. There were only a few doctors for their hundreds of cases, and *otherwise only orderlies*, who are terrified for their own safety—poor wretches—and just crowd in corners, doing nothing unless driven to it. All the windows were shut, and the place literally smelt like a sewer. All along the corridors patients were packed together, and one of the corridors was so dark one could not see the patients' faces at first. The wards, as regards hopeless dirt and squalor, were worse than the worst slum-dwelling I have ever seen. The patients lay on mattresses on the floor, often three lay shivering on two mattresses on the floor. Their clothing and bedding were filthy and alive with vermin, and helpless cases are simply left to become filthier and filthier.

Fever Patients Absolutely Untended.

"You must realise, too, that their patients are no slum dwellers, but hate dirt and this utter discomfort. They are splendid men, magnificent even when they are dying of fever. It is a most dreadful waste of fine human beings. Bad as the place is, we are told that at Valjevo, near the front, conditions are even worse. Three thousand fever patients lie in their uniforms *absolutely untended*—in an utter lack of every comfort and even decency. Hundreds and hundreds of nurses and doctors are needed for Serbia, but especially nurses. They should come out in parties though, not singly.

"You see we are in a very sad country, but it is the pluckiest country in Europe, without exception. Here they are, with their best men perishing on every side, and yet they make no complaint, and never think for a moment of giving in, though the Austrians may be down on them yet. Austria has treated them abominably, and yet they are not bitter. Their prisoners get the same treatment—miserable though it is—as their own men do. Serbia is as proud as it is possible to be, and does not want other countries to pity her. She is a grand little country, and we all love her people already, but she is desolate with her three wars. Why! we have men in our hospital, almost boys, who proudly show their three scars—Turkish, Bulgar, and now Austrian."

"Well, we are settled here in the Crown Prince's house, and, although crowded, are very much more comfortable than we expected. The hospital is about five minutes' walk away, and we have about 250 patients. They come in batches of about twenty at once, mostly from other hospitals. Their wounds are awful, and many of them just come in to die. They have been so crowded in the last hospitals, too, there is a good deal of fever. We, however, have kept free of it, you will be glad to learn. The place is full of Austrian prisoners, and they are turned on to do all the work. They do all the heavy work, carrying stretchers, cleaning, &c.; also we have six to clean our house and keep it. It sounds as if we ought to be very well looked after, but they are not much good at housework. Also every drop of water has to be fetched from a street pump about 200 yards away, and any for cooking purposes has to be boiled. It is also rather a struggle to get them to understand, as none of us know much Serbian outside hospital sentences. German is a useful language to know, but French is of no use. The Austrian prisoners are very nice, and I think quite glad to be prisoners, as their sympathies are all more with Serbia than Austria, and they all speak Serbian."

We have received highly satisfactory reports from the French Units at Royaumont and Calais, but are obliged to hold these over this week, owing to lack of space.

Scottish Women's Hospital.

	£	s.	d.
Further donations received to March 6th, 1915:—			
Forward as per list of February 27th, 1915 ...	10,770	17	2
Scottish Teachers' Fund for War Relief, per Hugh McCallum, Esq. (for Serbia, 2nd donation)	50	0	0
Holt W.S.S., per Miss L. Packard, Hon. Treas. ...	6	0	0
"Anonymous"	5	5	0
Per Miss S. E. S. Mair:—			
"The Methven Perthshire Bed," per J. H. Wylie, Esq. (Serbia) ...	£30	0	0
E. G. Currie, Esq ...	10	0	0
Mrs. Mitchell	5	0	6
Miss Barty	1	0	0
R. J. Duncan, Esq. ...	1	0	0
W. Lyon, Esq.	2	0	0
Mrs. Gordon	10	0	
Miss Robertson, Ministers' Daughters' College ...	2	0	0
Mrs. Tod	5	0	0
Miss M. Dundas	1	0	0
Mrs. Mackenzie (Serbia)	3	0	0
Mrs. Craw	1	0	0
J. S. Gibb, Esq.	5	0	0
Mrs. Philip (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Commander Henslowe (Serbia) ...	3	0	0
Mrs. Baddeley	1	0	0
Miss Steel	10	0	
Miss Greig	1	0	0
Collected by Mrs. Inglis Clerk, Rosedene, Lauder Road ...	3	2	6
Miss Lorimer	1	0	0
M. Montgomerie Bell, Esq. (towards "Randolph Crescent" Bed) ...	5	0	0
"Anonymous" (towards "Clarendon Crescent" Bed ...	10	0	0
Miss Warrack (towards "Chester Street" Bed)	10	0	0
Mrs. Angus (towards "Chester Street" Bed)	5	0	0
Misses McLaren (towards "Chester-Street" Bed)	5	0	0
	121	2	6
Mrs. Duff-Taylor (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Thomas Douglas, Esq.	1	1	0
Mr. Gilbert and Lady Mary Murray (to name 4 beds for 6 months—*viz.*, "Denis," "Terence," "Michael," and "Frances" (for Serbia) ...	100	0	0
Dr. John Aitken	5	5	0
Miss Brown (Serbia)	10	0	
Miss McMurtrie (Serbia) ...	5	0	
Miss Violet Inglis	5	0	
Miss Annie Simson	2	2	0
Miss Kate Wendell	12	4	
Mrs. Fleming	10	0	
Miss Annie Webb	1	0	0
Miss Janet Brooke	2	2	0
Miss Glyde (Serbia)	1	1	0
Mrs. Graham	10	0	
Miss Edith Palliser	1	1	0
Eastbourne W.S.S., per Miss Molly Sayer	17	18	0
Mrs. Wm. Hunter	2	0	0
Mrs. Jessie Mathewson (Enteric Hospital at Creil)	1	0	0
Miss Josephine Driver (Serbia)	5	0	0
Mrs. Catherine Jones	1	1	0
Mr. W. G. Rawlinson (Serbia)	2	2	0
Miss L. I. Lumsden, LL.D. (for "Lumsden" Bed, 2nd donation)	25	0	0
Mr. Fred. Leening	2	2	0
The Hon. John Abercrombie	20	0	0
In the name of the Women of Wishaw, per Miss Jean Rankin ("Wishaw" Bed) ...	50	0	0
Mrs. James Clark	50	0	0
Miss Selina Carbutt	3	0	0
Rev. James Adamson	1	1	0
Miss E. C. Wilson	1	0	0
Miss Elizabeth Rae		2	6
The Domestic Staff, St. Mary's School, Melrose (further donation, per Mrs. Hamilton)		10	0
Miss Jessie Lawrie		10	0
King's Sutton W.S.S., per Miss E. Browne, Hon. Treas. (Serbia)	2	3	3
Miss E. Fenwick		10	0
Miss S. Simpson (Serbia) ...		10	0
Abernethy W.S.S., per Miss M. Williamson (Serbia)	1	15	0
Ronald Lean, Esq. (Calais) ...	1	1	0
"Anonymous," Fife	50	0	0
Concert at Roberton, per Rev. G. P. Wallace	2	12	0
"Anonymous" (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Mr. Gowan	10	0	0
Mrs. Lawrence	5	0	0
Miss Lawrence	1	1	0
Bickering and District Branch of the N.U., per Miss Priestman	4	4	0
Nurse Stevens	10	0	0
Miss Cockburn		10	6
Miss Beveridge	1	0	0
Miss Nell Cargill	5	0	0
Miss Rose Cargill (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Mrs. Mary Campbell	5	0	0
Mrs. Buchanan	2	0	0
"Anonymous"	1	0	0
Mrs. Pellusen	2	0	0
Miss Pellusen	1	0	0
Miss A. W. Ferguson (Serbia)	2	2	0
Mrs. Jackson		10	0
Mrs. Walker	3	3	0
"Anonymous," Edinburgh ...		2	6
Miss Blyth	2	0	0
"Anonymous" (for "Lansdowne" Bed)	25	0	0
Per Miss Bury:—			
Grantown-on-Spey	£12	14	0
Rothes	5	12	8
Balnacowl	2	7	4
St. Andrews, Shanbryde	4	0	2
Inverness	55	10	5
Beauly	8	1	0
	88	5	7
Less expenses	13	5	7
	75	0	0
("Inverness" Bed—"Inverness and Beauly" Bed—"Morayshire" Bed)			
Stratford-on-Avon W.S.S. (towards the "Central Counties Federation" Bed"), per Dr. Olive Elgood Turner, Hon. Treas.	2	0	0
Alex. Thomson, Esq.	2	0	0
Mrs. H. Watson (France) ...	3	0	0
"J. M."	1	0	0
Mrs. Morham	1	0	0
Miss Frances Guthrie	1	1	0
The Misses Henderson	2	2	0
"L. G. H." (France)		5	0
Misses Robinson		10	6
Per Miss Dodds		10	0
Miss Nelly Hannah, U.S.A., per Mrs. Abbott (towards "Rabbie Burns" Bed) ...	1	17	0
Mr. W. Aitken	2	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Morrison	1	0	0
Mrs. Marion Cowan	10	0	0
Mrs. Amy Wright	1	10	0
Mrs. J. P. Wright	5	0	0
J. Stewart-Clark, Esq. ...	100	0	0
Women Students, Edinburgh University, per Miss Lizzie Gardner ("Edinburgh University Women Students" Bed)	50	0	0
Mrs. Agnes Haig	2	2	0
Miss Laing	2	0	0
Mrs. Bonar	3	0	0
Mrs. Craig	5	0	0
Mrs. Hamilton Brown	10	0	0
Miss Rackstraw	1	0	0
"E. M."		10	0
Mrs. Niecks	1	1	0
Mrs. Hay		10	0
Cecil White, Esq.	5	0	0
Per Mrs. Smith (for 4 "Murrayfield" Beds—2 beds for France and 2 for Serbia)	111	0	0
Miss Beith	1	0	0
For "Jean and Jane" Beds, per Miss Jean Montgomerie (further contribution—total now £100—for names, see Supplementary List, next week's issue)	24	0	0
Exmouth Branch W.S.S., per Miss W. Daw, Hon. Treas. ...	7	7	6
Mrs. Charles Reid	1	0	0
Miss Blanche C. Staley, Hon. Sec., Hants W.S.S.		5	0
Per Mrs. Sime (further contribution, "Gourock" Bed)		2	6
	£11,836	13	3

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS, NAMED, FOR HOSPITALS.

Bed.	*Donor.*
"The Methven Perthshire"	J. H. Wylie, Esq.
"Chester Street"	Per Miss S. E. S. Mair and Friends.
"Denis," "Terence," "Michael," and "Frances" (for Serbia) (4 beds) ...	Mr. Gilbert and Lady Mary Murray.
"Wishaw"	In the name of the Women of Wishaw, per Miss Jean Rankin.
"Lansdowne"	"Anonymous."
"Inverness," "Inverness and Beauly," "Morayshire"	Per Miss Bury.
"Edinburgh University Women Students"	Women Students, Edinburgh University, per Miss L. Gardner.
Four "Murrayfield"—Two Beds for France and two Beds for Serbia ...	Per Mrs. Smith, Balnagowan.

Further help is urgently required to carry on the work of our units. The cry for assistance comes from all. Subscriptions very gratefully received, either by the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." The London Society, 58, Victoria Street, has been appointed as the centre of work for the Scottish Hospitals in the Metropolitan area.

WOMEN AND MEDICAL SCHOOLS.

The increasing number of women desiring to enter the medical profession will appreciate the action of the Manchester Branch of the Federation of University Women in drawing attention to the many opportunities open to those wishing to study medicine outside London. Owing chiefly to the smaller cost of living, the expense of training in the provinces is somewhat less than in London, and all the provincial Universities admit women to their medical faculties on equal terms with men. Information as to the medical schools open to women is given in the Girls' School Year Book (Year Book Press), and in the pamphlet on Openings for University Women, published by the Central Bureau for the Employment of Women. It is pointed out that the demand for women doctors, both in England and India, is already very great, and no one should be deterred from training by ignorance of the many existing schools offering facilities.

WORK OF THE WOMEN'S EMERGENCY CORPS.

The half-yearly report of the Women's Emergency Corps shows an immense amount of work accomplished since the war broke out. Over 3,600 voluntary workers have been registered and classified, and 1,474 tested workers, in the Social Relief Department alone, have been sent to other organisations requiring help. The Employment Bureau has found posts for 460 women, not including the 190 workers employed at the Headquarters of the Corps, the workers in the 15 provincial branches, and the very large number introduced to the Labour Exchange on the premises of the Corps, which reports solely through the Board of Trade returns. Among many other activities have been (1) the collection of surplus food from the great London markets, for distribution to refugees and others, and the supplying of good cheap meals at 1d. and 2d. to women and girls employed in the Emergency Corps' workrooms. (2) The finding of homes for those in acute distress owing to the war (2,000 Belgian refugees and 184 Englishwomen have received hospitality). (3) The enrolling of 600 interpreters to assist refugees. (4) The clothing of 1,675 refugees. (5) The formation of the Women's Volunteer Reserve (the London Battalion of which already numbers 460 members), with the object of providing a trained and efficient body of women whose services could be offered to the country at any time, if necessary.

N.U. ORGANISER WOUNDED.

Miss Thurstan, the National Union organiser, who has been working under the Russian Red Cross Society, has been wounded, fortunately not seriously, and has also had an attack of pleurisy. She has now arrived home on sick leave, and we hope she may make a speedy recovery.

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The Latest fabric for Smart Blouses and Dresses.
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12 PIECES ONLY BLACK MOIRÉ VELOURS.
Correct fashion for Spring.
39in. wide 4/11 per yd. 40in wide 6/11 per yd.
Usual price 6/11 and 8/11 per yd.

30 PIECES OF RICH BLACK MOUSSELINE DUCHESSE SATIN.
Wear Guaranteed. 38in. wide. Usually sold at 3/9 per yd. 2/10½

We have secured the services of Monsieur Vrebos, from the Bon Marche, Vaxelaire-Claes, of Antwerp, Brussels, and Liege, who will be in attendance to give his personal attention to all ladies from Belgium and France.

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and Hatherley Grove, W.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
Miss K. D. Courtney.
Miss C. E. Marshall (Parliamentary).
Miss Emily M. Leaf (Press).
Miss Evelyn Atkinson (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
Mrs. Auerbach.

Secretary:
Miss Crookenden.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Resignation of the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Parliamentary Secretary.

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee, the Committee had before them the resignations of Miss Courtney and Miss Marshall as Hon. Secretary and Hon. Parliamentary Secretary respectively. Miss Courtney and Miss Marshall both want to be free to give more time to other work during the War. The resignations were accepted with much regret. Letters have been sent to the Societies of the Union on the subject, and nominations for the vacant offices have been invited. Recipients of Miss Marshall's letter are asked to note that on page 2, line 24, the word "agreed" should read argued.

The Editorship of "The Common Cause."

Miss Royden has resigned the editorship of The Common Cause, and the Board of Directors will shortly appoint her successor. She will continue in charge till the appointment takes effect.

Salaries of the Staff at Headquarters.

In view of the high prices now prevailing, the Executive has decided to give a war bonus to the staff at Headquarters.

Press Report.

An extremely interesting series of studies dealing with the influence of War on the Position of Women, is being published weekly in *The Cambridge Magazine*, the first introductory article having appeared on February 20th.

The Daily News and *The New Statesman* have this week been strongly urging the necessity for public discussion on the intentions of the Government with regard to a Peace Settlement. *The New Statesman* particularly desires that Colonial opinion should be consulted—and this, presumably, would include the opinion of the women who are entrusted with the vote.

Correction.

As there has been some confusion between Winchcombe and District W.S.S. and Winscombe W.S.S., we are asked to say that the Hon. Secretary of Winchcombe and District W.S.S. is Miss M. Dorothea Jordan, 8, Royal Parade, Cheltenham, and the Hon. Sec. for Winscombe is Mrs. Tanner, Fordlynch, Winscombe, Dorset.

50, Parliament Street.

In connection with the Employment Bureau, Miss Griesbach has been asked for a woman to go out to Rouen to take photographs of the Scottish Red Cross Hospital there (not to be confused with the Scottish Women's Hospital). Interesting facts and figures would have to be collected, and for this work no salary is offered, but all expenses would be paid. The worker would then return to England, work up the information collected into lectures, and have the photographs made into lantern slides. She would then be wanted to give lectures to raise funds for the Hospital, and for this work 10s. a lecture would be offered.

A pair of thick gardening boots are needed for a professional woman about to take a course of training in gardening. This lady came with her sister from Vienna, and was stranded here in London with very few clothes and no money at all. She was put into touch with an Association from which she is now to receive training in gardening with a maintenance grant, but she finds it very difficult to get suitable clothes. Any help with underclothes or boots, jersey, thick leather gloves, would be very acceptable to the lady. She is tall and thin, and the boots should be size 7.

Active Service Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	4,057	16	1
Mrs. Eyres	5	0	0
Miss A. May Curwen	1	0	0
Miss A May Curwen (Common Cause)	10	0	
Mrs. George Sim	10	0	
Mrs. George Sim (Common Cause)	10	0	
Mrs. Morgan (5th monthly donation)	1	0	0
Miss Emma Mahler	5	0	0
Jarrow Branch B.W.T.A. ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Gamble (12th donation)	1	0	
Mr. J. A. Morton (6th monthly donation)	5	0	
Miss E. M. Lloyd	10	0	
Dorking and Leith Hill W.S.S.	3	0	0
Miss Milton (3rd donation) ...	10	0	
Staff and Pupils, Gloucestershire School of Domestic Science (Belgian Relief, 6th weekly donation) ...	1	0	0
Miss Beryl D. Blackman ...	1	0	0
Miss M. L. Pendered	4	0	
Miss Ottilie Bode	5	0	
Girton College Branch (Self-denial Week)	7	0	0
Miss H. M. Adshead (2nd donation)	8	0	0
Professional Women's Patriotic Service Fund:—			
Mrs. Samson	1	0	0
Received for the Scottish Women's Hospital	56	15	0
	£4,151	17	1

Annual Meeting Appeal for the Active Service Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	933	11	0
Mrs. Kirkwood	1	0	0
Miss Clarke and Mrs. Dudley	5	0	0
Miss Isa R. H. Watson ...		1	0
Lady Mary Turner	1	0	0
Miss M. B. Greswell	2	0	0
Miss L. Howell	5	0	0
Mrs. S. M. Russell	2	0	0
Mrs. Lauriston Shaw	2	2	0
	£951	14	0

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1914	633	9	9
Received from February 27th to March 6th, 1915:—			
Subscriptions.			
Mrs. Gerard		5	0
Miss Luker		2	0
Mrs. Robie Uniacke	1	0	0
Miss Janet Dodge	2	2	0
Lady Nottage	1	0	0
Mrs. C. M. Eales		2	6
Mrs. Philip Snowden	1	0	0
Mrs. Joshua	1	1	0
Miss Ella M. Hare		10	0
Miss A. Maud Allen	1	1	0
The Hon. Lady Granet ...	1	0	0
Miss Mary L. Pendered ...		1	0
Mrs. W. H. Kitchin		5	0
Mrs. Patrick Graham		5	0
Mrs. L. E. Becker		10	0
Mrs. George Bromet		5	0
Miss E. M. Maskell		3	0
Miss E. M. Hildyard		5	0
Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Pilcher ...	5	0	0
Lady Onslow	1	1	0
Miss R. G. Falkiner		10	0
Mrs. Eastwood		10	0
Miss Dorothy C. A. Paine ...		5	0
Affiliation Fees.			
Bolton W.S.S.	4	9	3
Bracknell W.S.S.		9	0
Cheltenham W.S.S.	1	5	3
Dorking and Leith Hill W.S.S.	1	17	9
Perth W.S.S.	1	0	0
Melrose W.S.S.		10	0
Lenzie W.S.S.		14	6
Clevedon W.S.S.		10	3
Hunstanton W.S.S.		5	6
East Grinstead W.S.S.	1	5	9
Winchcombe and District W.S.S.		8	6
North-West Wilts W.S.S. ...		14	0
Donations.			
Mrs. Tennant		10	0
Mrs. George Sim	1	0	0
	£666	13	0

"COMMON CAUSE" SELLING.

If you cannot sell "The Common Cause" yourself please send us some money so that we may employ out of work women to sell the paper. Donations should be sent to the Manager, "The Common Cause," 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Further donations received:—Miss N. Stewart, 7s. 6d.; Miss Hoc, 2s.; the Misses Shore, 5s.; Mr. J. Tindle Anderson, 7s. 6d.; Miss M. May, 2s. 6d.; Miss A. May Curwen, 10s.; Mrs. George Sim, 10s.; Miss Rosa Button (3rd and 4th monthly instalments), 10s.; Camberley W.S.S., £1; Mrs. Fyffe (6th and 7th monthly instalments), £1; Miss Churchman, 10s.

A list of important London pitches is kept at the Shop, 50, Parliament Street, and at the "C.C." office, and we can do with any number of volunteers.

Marble Arch Depôt.—Copies can be obtained for Hyde Park sellers on Sunday afternoons from 44, Great Cumberland Place, W.

Kensington Depôt.—Miss Bryan, 7, Stratford Road, Kensington, has kindly consented to allow her house to be used as a depôt, and sellers in this neighbourhood are asked to apply at her house for copies of the paper.

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What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Tiverton Branch.

Since October our Society has run a clothing depôt, and more than 400 articles of all sorts (old and new) have been collected. Two sewing women and a Belgian refugee tailor have been employed in making up material given, and in mending worn garments. Parcels of clothing have been sent to various poor families, Belgian refugees, and wounded soldiers in Devon, and a large consignment of children's garments to Lady Lansdowne for the Officers' Families' Fund. Our branch, which is very small, has sent the sum of £7 16s. 6d., as well as a large parcel of hospital outfit, to the N.U. Scottish Women's Hospital, and we hope to send more money and comforts later on.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation.

The annual meeting of the Eastbourne Society was held at the Saffron Rooms on February 12th. It was reported that twice as much money had been handled in 1914 as in 1913, just as the amount in 1913 was double the amount in 1912. A public meeting followed, addressed by Miss Crompton, M.A., on "Women Suffragists' Hospitals at the Front." The sum of £17 18s. has been collected since then, and forwarded to Dr. Inglis, for the support of an Eastbourne bed in the Scottish Women's Field Hospital.

Kilmarnock.

Our work party continues to meet weekly, and to labour for the Scottish Women's Hospitals and for the Red Cross. The Girls' Club is now only open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 2.30 till 9.0 p.m.; and is not now available for the soldiers quartered in Kilmarnock, a large number of whom were transferred to Edinburgh just before we made the alteration. Drill and First Aid are the subjects taught; and Mrs. Stirling is coming to address the girls on February 5th. Games, piano, and magazines are provided, and a cheery fireside. The Club was open to soldiers each evening, and on Sundays from 2.0 o'clock for five weeks; and we believe that it was very much appreciated, and a great help to the men. Many were interested in Suffrage, and got quite a new impression of the movement.

Forthcoming Meetings.

MARCH 12.

Dennistown—Belgrove Hall—Evening Entertainment by the ladies of the Rutherford U.F Church—Tickets, 2s., 1s.—Speaker Miss E. M. C. Foggo 7.30

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Miss M. G. Williamson on "Prussia"—Chair, Mrs. Melville 4.30

Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Joint Meeting—Dr. Lilias Hamilton on "Educated Women as Forewomen in Factories" 3.0

MARCH 14.

Birmingham—Gooch Street—Men's School—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 8.40 a.m.

MARCH 15.

Bristol—40 Park Street—Working Party

Falmouth—The Garden Room, Wodehouse Place—Annual Meeting of Society

Glasgow—Grand Hotel—Dramatic Evening in aid of N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital—Tickets, 5s. and 3s., from Miss Foggo, 202, Hope Street, and elsewhere 8.30

Hyde—P.S.A. Hall, Market Street—Public Meeting—Mrs. J. R. Tomlinson and Mrs. Annot Robinson on "Woman's Interest and the War"—Chair, the Rev. J. S. Burgess 8.0

Manchester—York Street Temperance Hall—Hulme Suffrage Club 8.0

MARCH 16.

Bristol—5, Berkeley Square—French Class for Soldiers

MARCH 17.

Manchester—"Draethan," Lapwing Lane, W. Didsbury—American Tea—Hostess, Mrs. Conway 3.30

Sunderland—5, Elms West (by kind permission of Mrs. Eyres)—Annual Meeting of Society 7.30

MARCH 18.

Birmingham—Allcock Street Club—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 8.0

Bradford—Suffrage Office, 136a, Manningham Lane—Miss Maude Illingworth on "Belgium" 7.30

Bristol—5, Berkeley Square—French Class for Soldiers

Glasgow—Charing Cross Halls—The Rev. W. R. Thomson, B.D., on "The War—and After" 8.0

Manchester—Gospel Temperance Hall, Ashton New Road—Bradford, Beswick, and New Cross Suffrage Club—Speaker, Miss Lucy Cox 7.45

Wallasey and Wirral—St. Paul's Schools, Seacombe—Tipperary Club 7.30

Items of Interest.

Saving the Babies.

We have received from Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky particulars of the activities of the East London Federation of Suffragettes in saving the lives of London babies. These include:—

1. *Cost Price Restaurants,* where excellent two-course meals are served at 2d. a head, and soup is provided at 1d. a pint with a piece of bread. Cups of tea are served at ½d. Food may be eaten on the premises, or taken away. Free meals are given in urgently necessitous cases.

2. *Mother and Child Welfare Centres,* where upwards of 300 quarts of milk are distributed daily to necessitous expectant and nursing mothers, and children under one year; also barley for babies' barley water, eggs, Glaxo, Virol, arrowroot, rice, boracic powder, boracic lint, vaseline, zinc ointment, and bandages in cases of accident, &c. Doctors attend weekly for mothers' consultations, and a staff of nurses visit the mothers and advise at the centres daily. Babies' and mothers' outfits are lent for the first month, and in some cases given away.

3. *The Babies' House,* at 45, Norman Road, where we have opened a nursery for babies whose mothers go out to work. The children's ages range from two months to five years, and we supply them with a change of clothes to wear during the day. Children's clothes, toys, books, &c., are always wanted, and subscriptions towards the upkeep of the nursery.

4. *Clothing stalls* at our centres, where new and second-hand clothes may be bought at a moderate price. Clothes are also given away in urgent cases. Gifts of new and second-hand clothes, especially boots, are much needed.

5. *Co-operative Boot Factory,* where boots and shoes are made at various prices. Trade union wages, and profits go to the workers.

6. *Toy Factory,* whence we can supply rag dolls and china, and wax-headed ones of original and artistic designs, at various prices; also dolls' clothes, dolls' furniture, wooden horses, carts and barrows, and flat wooden toys.

7. *Garment-making.*—We also provide employment for women who need work in garment-making of all kinds. For this work we do not pay less than 5d. an hour, or £1 a week.

We urgently need orders for work, gifts of stuff for making up into clothes to give away to those who are destitute, also money to pay for those who are employed on making things to give away.

"For all these undertakings," Dr. Tschaykovsky pleads, "funds are needed—at least £100 a week—and the return is the knowledge that very real and lasting help is being rendered to the babies and their mothers, who must otherwise starve—and starve hopelessly."

"A short time ago we were told that the British casualties were 104,000—is it generally realised that each year we lose over 114,000 babies, mostly through neglect and malnutrition, and their attendant ills? Surely at no time is it so necessary to save every saveable life, and with the appalling drain of the nation on the battlefields, shall we not see to it that the babies are spared, that no longer shall the chief Kama's indictment be true: "England takes care of her things, but she throws away her people."

A new spirit is arising around us to save the little people who shall inherit all that is best and purest and highest in the strivings of the nation. I earnestly entreat all who are not going short of the necessaries of life to help those sufferers in the East End by supporting whichever activity most appeals to them. I shall be glad to receive subscriptions at Langham House, Harrow-on-the-Hill." Gifts of food and clothing should be sent to 400, Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

French Classes for Nurses.

Free classes are to be held at the Women's Emergency Corps for nurses wishing to learn colloquial French before going to the front. A lady from Paris, a well-known sculptor, has undertaken to give the lessons, and applications should be addressed to the "Nursing Department," Women's Emergency Corps, 8-10, York Place, Baker Street, W.

Work of Medical Women.

The Mayoress of Islington held a reception on Tuesday at the Islington Town Hall on behalf of the "League of the Roses," Great Northern Central Hospital. Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D., M.S., was present, and gave an interesting address on "The Work of Medical Women—especially at the Front." In the course of her remarks, Mrs. Scharlieb expressed her pleasure at the recent appointment of a lady house physician as well as lady anæsthetists at the Great Northern Central Hospital, and gave some amusing reminiscences of the early days of the profession.

Serbian Honour to a British Woman Doctor.

The following account of the honour paid to a young Scottish woman, Dr. Ross, of Nairn, who died of typhus last month at Kraguievatz (to which town she had gone out alone to help in hospital work), shows what a high value the Serbians place on the efforts of British women to alleviate the sufferings of their soldiers:—

"First, outside the hospital in the open air, while a censer was swung, a number of priests of the Greek Church, in black robes with silver ornaments, chanted a service, which was repeated by a full choir. A procession was then formed to the church. At the head of this was the band of the Guards of the Crown Prince of Serbia, playing the melancholy but beautiful funeral march which belongs to that regiment. The chief mourners were naturally the Scottish unit, but there were many Serbian nurses and officers present. After certain acts of devotion at the church the procession reformed, and wound through the streets of the town to the cemetery, which is a little way in the country. The British military attaché, Colonel Harrison, stepped forward and read a short prayer from the English Service Book. Then, according to old Serbian custom, there was a peal of church bells. There is something deeply pathetic in this honour gratefully paid to the memory of a young Highland girl, who no doubt represented to the Serbians the goodwill of this country. The same grateful spirit is observed among the hospital patients, including several Austrian prisoners. I should like to add, however, that there is still an urgent demand for more doctors and more dressers."—(*From a Letter from W. C. Smith, in "The Scotsman," March 6th.*)

Some Useful Addresses.

Employment and Relief, &c.

Local Government Board—London, Edinburgh, and Dublin.

Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund—3, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.

Central Committee on Women's Employment—Miss Mary Macarthur, 8, Grosvenor Place, S.W.

Queen's Work for Women Fund—Communications to Lady Roxburgh. Cheques, Mrs. C. Arthur Pearson, 35, Portland Place, W.

Government Sub-Committee for dealing with unemployment amongst professional people.—J. B. Beresford, Esq., Local Government Board, Whitehall, S.W.

Workers' National Committee—28, Victoria Street, S.W.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies—*Sec.*, Miss Crookenden, M.A., Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

London Society for Women's Suffrage (N.U.W.S.S.)—*Sec.*, Miss Phillippa Strachey, 58, Victoria Street.

Women's Emergency Corps—8-10, Baker Street, W.

Women's Freedom League—1, Robert Street, Adelphi.

East London Federation of Suffragettes—Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, 400, Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

Professional Classes War Relief Council—*Hon. Secs.*, T. Chambers, Esq., A. Goddard, Esq., and Mrs. Gotto, 13 and 14, Princes Gate, S.W.

Press Contributors' Emergency Fund—*Sec.*, Miss Hall, care of N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. To assist journalists who have lost their occupation owing to the war.

Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries—The Secretary, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand. War Emergency Fund (same address).

Women's Co-operative Guild—28, Church Row, Hampstead, N.W.

British Dominions Overseas Women's Suffrage Union—Miss Harriet Newcomb, care of International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W.

SCHEMES FOR SOCIAL WELFARE AMONGST WOMEN AND GIRLS.

National Organisation of Girls' Clubs—118, Great Titchfield Street, W.

Girl Guides—116, Victoria Street, S.W. (Head Office).

League of Honour—Mrs. Porter, 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.

Women Patrols Committee—N.U.W.W., Parliament Mansions, S.W.

Club Rooms for Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives, Tipperary Clubs, Cheer-up Clubs, &c.—*London Secretary:* Tipperary Rooms, Block's Road, Hammersmith.

Young Women's Christian Association—26, George Street, W.

SOCIETIES DEALING WITH REFUGEES AND STRANDED FOREIGNERS.

War Refugees Committee — General Buildings, Aldwych.

The Belgian Relief Fund—The Belgian Legation, 15, West Halkin Street, W.

Departmental Committee for considering the question of employment of Belgian Refugees. *Secretary:* Local Government Board, Whitehall.

(Continued over page.)

Belgians' Relief Fund—8, Chiswell Street, E.C. (for articles of clothing).

The Wounded Allies Relief Committee—Whitehall House, 30, Charing Cross, S.W.

French Section of the War Refugees Committee (Authorised by French Ambassador)—General Buildings, Aldwych, W.C.

The International Women's Relief Committee—7, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Destitute Aliens' Committee—*Secretary:* Mr. E. Sebag Montefiore, Home Office.

Aliens' Relief Fund—*Hon. Treasurer:* W. Hanbury Aggs, Esq., Barclay's Bank, Pall Mall East, S.W.

The United Aliens' Relief Society—68, Finsbury Pavement (for helping distressed foreigners).

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Printed by the National Press Agency Ltd., Whitefriars House, Carmelite St., London, for the Proprietors, The Common Cause Publishing Co. Ltd., and Published at 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. *London:* George Vickers. *Manchester:* John Heywood; Abel Heywood & Son; W. H. Smith & Son. *Newcastle-on-Tyne:* W. H. Smith & Son. *Edinburgh and Glasgow:* J. Menzies & Co. *Dublin and Belfast:* Eason & Son.